C0250005, Incoming

#3735

Q

Alton Coal Development, LLC
463 North 100 West, Suite 1
Cedar City, Utah 84720
Phone (435) 867-5331 • Fax (435) 867-1192

COPY

Date: February 25, 2011

Daron R. Haddock
Coal Program Manager
Oil, Gas & Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801

Subject: Mine and Reclamation Plan Revision – Change to year 1 mining sequence.
Assigned Task No. 3735

Dear Mr. Haddock,

Enclosed is a complete set of documents including C1/C2 forms and 6 clean copies of changes reflecting mining sequence, top soil storage, and subsoil storage within the first year. These changes and revisions are to be incorporated in the Coal Hollow Mine and Reclamation Plan (MRP), C/025/0005 and are to replace the initial submittal dated February 3, 2011. This submittal was generated after a conference call with Priscilla Burton and Pete Hess of DOGM, and Larry Johnson and Kirk Nicholes of Alton Coal on February 24, 2011.

Because of the timing issues associated with the mining process, again we would ask if your review could be expedited.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. I can be contacted at (435) 691-1551

Sincerely,

B. Kirk Nicholes
Resident Agent

File in:
☐ Confidential
☐ Shelf
☒ Expandable
Date Folder 030/2011/C/0250005
See Incoming For additional information

RECEIVED
MAR 0 1 2011
OGM PRICE FIELD OFFICE

COPY

APPLICATION FOR COAL PERMIT PROCESSING

Permit Change ☒ New Permit ☐ Renewal ☐ Exploration ☐ Bond Release ☐ Transfer ☐

Permittee: Alton Coal Development, LLC
Mine: Coal Hollow **Permit Number:** C/025/0005
Title: Drawings 2 - 2, 5 - 10, 5-17, Chapter 2 page 2-23, Chapter 5 pages 5-38, 5-65, and 5-68
Description, Include reason for application and timing required to implement:

Instructions: If you answer yes to any of the first eight questions, this application may require Public Notice publication.

☐ Yes ☒ No 1. Change in the size of the Permit Area? Acres: _____ Disturbed Area: _____ ☐ increase ☐ decrease.
☐ Yes ☒ No 2. Is the application submitted as a result of a Division Order? DO# _____
☐ Yes ☒ No 3. Does the application include operations outside a previously identified Cumulative Hydrologic Impact Area?
☐ Yes ☒ No 4. Does the application include operations in hydrologic basins other than as currently approved?
☐ Yes ☒ No 5. Does the application result from cancellation, reduction or increase of insurance or reclamation bond?
☐ Yes ☒ No 6. Does the application require or include public notice publication?
☐ Yes ☒ No 7. Does the application require or include ownership, control, right-of-entry, or compliance information?
☐ Yes ☒ No 8. Is proposed activity within 100 feet of a public road or cemetery or 300 feet of an occupied dwelling?
☐ Yes ☒ No 9. Is the application submitted as a result of a Violation? NOV # _____
☐ Yes ☒ No 10. Is the application submitted as a result of other laws or regulations or policies?
Explain: _____
☐ Yes ☒ No 11. Does the application affect the surface landowner or change the post mining land use?
☐ Yes ☒ No 12. Does the application require or include underground design or mine sequence and timing? (Modification of R2P2)
☐ Yes ☒ No 13. Does the application require or include collection and reporting of any baseline information?
☐ Yes ☒ No 14. Could the application have any effect on wildlife or vegetation outside the current disturbed area?
☒ Yes ☐ No 15. Does the application require or include soil removal, storage or placement?
☐ Yes ☒ No 16. Does the application require or include vegetation monitoring, removal or revegetation activities?
☐ Yes ☒ No 17. Does the application require or include construction, modification, or removal of surface facilities?
☐ Yes ☒ No 18. Does the application require or include water monitoring, sediment or drainage control measures?
☒ Yes ☐ No 19. Does the application require or include certified designs, maps or calculation?
☐ Yes ☒ No 20. Does the application require or include subsidence control or monitoring?
☐ Yes ☒ No 21. Have reclamation costs for bonding been provided?
☐ Yes ☒ No 22. Does the application involve a perennial stream, a stream buffer zone or discharges to a stream?
☐ Yes ☒ No 23. Does the application affect permits issued by other agencies or permits issued to other entities?
☐ Yes ☒ No 24. Does the application include confidential information and is it clearly marked and separated in the plan?

Please attach three (3) review copies of the application. If the mine is on or adjacent to Forest Service land please submit four (4) copies, thank you. (These numbers include a copy for the Price Field Office)

I hereby certify that I am a responsible official of the applicant and that the information contained in this application is true and correct to the best of my information and belief in all respects with the laws of Utah in reference to commitments, undertakings, and obligations, herein.

B. Kirk Nicholes | Environmental Spec. | 2/25/2011 | B. Kirk Nicholes
Print Name | Position | Date | Signature (Right-click above choose certify then have notary sign below)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25 day of Feb, 2011

Notary Public: Lorna Reese, state of Utah.

My commission Expires: 3.18.2013
Commission Number: 578215
Address: 444 S. Main
City: Cedar City State: UT Zip: 84720

ss:

NOTARY PUBLIC
LORNA REESE
578215
COMMISSION EXPIRES
MARCH 18, 2013
STATE OF UTAH

For Office Use Only:	Assigned Tracking Number:	Received by Oil, Gas & Mining

COPY

APPLICATION FOR COAL PERMIT PROCESSING
Detailed Schedule Of Changes to the Mining And Reclamation Plan

Permittee: Alton Coal Development, LLC
Mine: Coal Hollow
Permit Number: C/025/0005
Title: Drawings 2 - 2, 5 - 10, 5-17, Chapter 2 page 2-23, Chapter 5 pages 5-38, 5-65, and 5-68

Provide a detailed listing of all changes to the Mining and Reclamation Plan, which is required as a result of this proposed permit application. Individually list all maps and drawings that are added, replaced, or removed from the plan. Include changes to the table of contents, section of the plan, or other information as needed to specifically locate, identify and revise the existing Mining and Reclamation Plan. Include page, section and drawing number as part of the description.

			DESCRIPTION OF MAP, TEXT, OR MATERIAL TO BE CHANGED
☐ Add	☒ Replace	☐ Remove	Drawing 2 - 2
☐ Add	☒ Replace	☐ Remove	Drawing 5 - 10
☐ Add	☒ Replace	☐ Remove	Page 5 - 38 Chapter 5
☐ Add	☒ Replace	☐ Remove	Page 5 - 65 Chapter 5
☐ Add	☒ Replace	☐ Remove	Page 5 - 68 Chapter 5
☐ Add	☒ Replace	☐ Remove	Drawing 5-17
☐ Add	☒ Replace	☐ Remove	Page 2-23 Chapter 2
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	
☐ Add	☐ Replace	☐ Remove	

Any other specific or special instruction required for insertion of this proposal into the Mining and Reclamation Plan.	Received by Oil, Gas & Mining

Where the topsoil is of insufficient quantity or poor quality for sustaining vegetation, other materials approved by the DOGM in accordance with R645-301-233.100 will be removed as a separate layer from the area to be disturbed, and segregated.

Based on the Soil Survey, there should be sufficient quantities of topsoil to place an average of eight inches of topsoil across all reclaimed areas.

232.300. Shallow Topsoil Handling

If topsoil is less than six inches thick, the operator may remove the topsoil and the unconsolidated materials immediately below the topsoil and treat the mixture as topsoil.

Sufficient quantities of topsoil are estimated to be available for replacement of an average eight inches of topsoil across reclamation, with a minimum of six inches. Therefore, mixing of topsoil with subsoil is not anticipated to be necessary

232.400 - 232.420. Topsoil Removal Exceptions

UDOGM will not require the removal of topsoil for minor disturbances which occur at the site of small structures, such as power poles, signs, or fence lines. Removal of topsoil will not be required when the disturbances will not destroy the existing vegetation and will not cause erosion.

232.500. Subsoil Segregation

The Coal Hollow Project plans to remove soils as either topsoil or subsoil based on the completed soil survey. DOGM may require that the B horizon, C horizon, or other underlying strata, or portions thereof, be removed and segregated, stockpiled, and redistributed as subsoil in accordance with the requirements of R645-301-234 and R645-301-242 if it finds that such subsoil layers are necessary to comply with the revegetation requirements of R645-301-353 through R645-301-357.

Refer to Table 4-2 in Appendix 2-1, which contains estimated subsoil salvage depths. In addition, substitute subsoil has been identified in the layers between the identified topsoil layer and the Tropic Shale. Sufficient quantities of this material are available to live haul most of the subsoil with the exception of one stockpile that will be constructed from the initial mining area and reserved for reclamation of the final mining area and one temporary stockpile that will be constructed from removal of the NW/4, NE/4, Section 30. All substitute subsoil materials will be sampled and tested for pH, conductivity, SAR, percent lime, and texture, prior to salvage and stockpiling.

Deleted:

The following soil sampling program will be conducted during the initial mining process:

Deleted: 10/27/08

232.200. Topsoil of Insufficient Quantity or Quality

Where the topsoil is of insufficient quantity or poor quality for sustaining vegetation, other materials approved by the DOGM in accordance with R645-301-233.100 will be removed as a separate layer from the area to be disturbed, and segregated.

Based on the Soil Survey, there should be sufficient quantities of topsoil to place an average of eight inches of topsoil across all reclaimed areas.

232.300. Shallow Topsoil Handling

If topsoil is less than six inches thick, the operator may remove the topsoil and the unconsolidated materials immediately below the topsoil and treat the mixture as topsoil.

Sufficient quantities of topsoil are estimated to be available for replacement of an average eight inches of topsoil across reclamation, with a minimum of six inches. Therefore, mixing of topsoil with subsoil is not anticipated to be necessary

232.400 - 232.420. Topsoil Removal Exceptions

UDOGM will not require the removal of topsoil for minor disturbances which occur at the site of small structures, such as power poles, signs, or fence lines. Removal of topsoil will not be required when the disturbances will not destroy the existing vegetation and will not cause erosion.

232.500. Subsoil Segregation

The Coal Hollow Project plans to remove soils as either topsoil or subsoil based on the completed soil survey. DOGM may require that the B horizon, C horizon, or other underlying strata, or portions thereof, be removed and segregated, stockpiled, and redistributed as subsoil in accordance with the requirements of R645-301-234 and R645-301-242 if it finds that such subsoil layers are necessary to comply with the revegetation requirements of R645-301-353 through R645-301-357.

Refer to Table 4-2 in Appendix 2-1, which contains estimated subsoil salvage depths. In addition, substitute subsoil has been identified in the layers between the identified topsoil layer and the Tropic Shale. Sufficient quantities of this material are available to live haul most of the subsoil with the exception of one stockpile that will be constructed from the initial mining area and reserved for reclamation of the final mining area and one temporary stockpile that will be constructed from removal of the NW/4, NE/4, Section 30. All substitute subsoil materials will be sampled and tested for pH, conductivity, SAR, percent lime, and texture, prior to salvage and stockpiling.

The following soil sampling program will be conducted during the initial mining process:

528. HANDLING AND DISPOSAL OF COAL, OVERBURDEN, EXCESS SPOIL, AND COAL MINE WASTE:

528.100. Coal removal, handling, storage, cleaning, and transportation areas and structures;

Coal handling activities are confined to the active pit, and the coal sizing/loading areas located north of the pit. All areas and facilities will be designed and constructed, utilized and maintained in conformance with industry standards and all applicable regulations. At the conclusion of mining, the facilities will be removed as part of final mine reclamation activities. Material from coal stockpile areas, and other areas of potential coal accumulation will be excavated and the excavated material placed in the final mined out pit.

528.200. Overburden;

Overburden will be excavated after the removal of topsoil and subsoil as defined in Chapter 2. The overburden excavation will be accomplished by utilizing hydraulic excavators with end dump haul trucks and dozers. This process will include excavating this material in a stairstep fashion that will include benches approximately every 40 feet in depth. These benches are planned to be approximately 40 feet in width and will create an overall 2h:1v slope for the highwalls to create a stable and safe working area. This is a conservative approach for initial mining and once mining begins, ongoing geotechnical studies and monitoring will be used to further define the proper slope angle to ensure slope stability while maximizing resource recovery.

Based on the overburden isopach map (Drawing 5-15), the overburden removal has been separated into three major stages. The first stage of overburden removal is the initial mining area, Pits 1-8. These pits have a relatively low strip ratio, approximately 5:1 (refer to Drawing 5-13). In order to efficiently remove overburden for this phase, spoil from the first three pits will be placed in an excess spoil area. This excess spoil structure will hold approximately 2.7 million loose cubic yards (LCY) of material. Once the excess spoil pile is filled, overburden from the next 4 pits can then be used as pit backfill as the mining progresses through Pit 8. The completion of this phase is shown on Drawing 5-17.

Deleted: Pits 4 through 8

As mining progresses through Pits 9-15, the isopach (Drawing 5-15) shows that the overburden significantly increases. This increase and the shape of the mining boundary for the Permit Area requires a fill above approximate original contour. Material from Pits 9-15 significantly exceeds the backfill capacity available from the preceding pits (Pits 1-8). The fill above approximate original contour blends in with the excess spoil structure from Stage 1 and extends an additional 2,500 feet to the east as the mining sequence proceeds to Pit 15. In this stage, the fill above original contour is approximately 5.8 million LCY. Drawing 5-18 (Stage 2) shows the details of this stage of the overburden removal and resulting landform.

Formatted: Right

Deleted: 01

552.200

All impoundments will be reclaimed, no permanent impoundments are proposed.

553 BACKFILLING AND GRADING:

Backfilling and Grading of the mined area will proceed in conjunction with coal recovery operations.

The planned mine will recover approximately 5.02 million tons of coal, and remove approximately 31.6 million Bank Cubic Yards (BCY) of overburden. The following is a description of the overburden removal and backfilling process:

Based on the overburden isopach map (Drawing 5-15), the overburden removal and backfilling process has been separated into three major stages. The first stage of this process is for the initial mining area, Pits 1-8. These pits have a relatively low strip ratio, approximately 5:1 (refer to Drawing 5-13). In order to efficiently remove overburden for this phase, spoil from the first three pits will be placed in an excess spoil area located immediately west of Pit 1. This excess spoil structure will hold approximately 2.7 million loose cubic yards (LCY) of material and is shown on Drawing 5-17. Once the excess spoil pile is filled, overburden from the next 4 pits can then be used as pit backfill as the mining progresses through Pit 8. The completion of this phase is shown on Drawing 5-17.

Deleted: , including Pit 2 the boxcut,

Deleted: Pits 4 through 8

As mining progresses through Pits 9-15, the isopach (Drawing 5-15) shows that the overburden significantly increases. This increase and the shape of the mining boundary for the Permit Area require a fill above approximate original contour that is an extension of the excess spoil pile. Material from Pits 9-15 significantly exceeds the backfill capacity available from the preceding pits (Pits 1-8). The fill above approximate original contour blends in with the excess spoil structure from Stage 1 and extends an additional 2,500 feet to the east as the mining sequence proceeds to Pit 15. In this stage, the fill above original contour is approximately 5.8 million LCY. Drawing 5-18 (Stage 2) shows the details of this stage of the overburden removal and resulting landform.

Stage 3 overburden removal begins in Pit 16 and proceeds through Pit 30. During this stage, the strip ratio reduces significantly from Stage 2 as mining progresses to the south end of the property. As the strip ratio reduces to the south, significant backfill capacity is available in the preceding Pit 15. This results in the distance between the backfill and the active coal face increasing because there is a lack of spoil in the lower ratio pits as mining proceeds south to fill the preceding higher ratio area. At the end of mining this phase, an area will not be completely backfilled that is approximately 2,000 feet in length and 1,300 feet wide and will require 6.8 million yards of fill to complete reclamation to approximate original contour. This remaining pit provides an open pit adjacent to the federal coal reserves for backfilling of overburden so that a smooth transition can be made without developing another boxcut and an excess spoil area. The backfill configuration at the end of this stage is shown in Drawing 5-19.

Formatted: Right

Deleted: 01

of the active coal removal face. As described in the previous text and shown on Drawing 5-19, there will be a variance from this standard in the final pits. Areas needed for in-pit roads, ramps, drainage controls or areas which must be left open temporarily for operational reasons will be backfilled and graded as they become available.

In the initial mining area, pits 1 through 8 (spoil from pit 2 and 3 will be permanently placed in the excess spoil area and pit 1. Part of Pit 3 is placed in the previous pit. All of the 4th pit is placed in the pit 3, beginning the sequential pit backfilling process. By the time coal recovery is complete, rough backfilling and grading will be complete through 7 pits. Rough backfilling and grading will continue and be completed through pit 8. Pits 1, 2, and 3 are defined on drawing 5-10. Pits 4 through 8 will be determined during the mining of pits 1, 2, and 3. At that time, an amendment to this permit reflecting the number and sequence of pits 4 through 8 will be submitted to the division.

Deleted: .
Deleted: the
Deleted: Pit 2 and part of Pit 3
Deleted: 2nd & 3rd pits
Deleted: pit
Deleted: 1. Part of Pit 3 and all of Pit 4 spoil is placed as backfill in Pit 2
Deleted: the 3rd pit
Deleted: ,
Deleted: 3rd pit
Deleted: in Pits 6
Deleted: and 7.
Deleted: in Pit 6, r
Deleted: in Pits 2 and 3.
Deleted: ¶

553.110

All areas except for the excess spoil pile and the variance from AOC (approximately 85 acres), will be restored to approximate original contour as shown on Drawing 5-35. R645-301-553.800 (Thick Overburden) does apply to this surface mine. In areas where excess spoil and variance from approximate original contour occur, the slopes will be regraded to a maximum angle of 3h:1v and most slopes are flatter as shown on Drawing 5-35 and 5-36. A geotechnical analysis has been completed to verify that the spoil material will be stable long term. This analysis can be viewed in Appendix 5-1.

553.120

Deleted: ¶

All highwalls will be eliminated in the final landform. Small depressions may be constructed as needed to retain moisture, minimize erosion, create and enhance wildlife habitat or assist vegetation. All spoil piles will be eliminated with the exception of the planned excess spoil and variance from original contour as shown on Drawing 5-35.

553.130

Deleted: ¶

Postmining slopes will not exceed the angle of repose which is expected to be approximately 1.5h:1v as described in Appendix 5-5. This appendix is an analysis by Dr. Ben Seegmiller addressing the safety factor for the post mining slope with the lowest safety factor outside the excess spoil area. This analysis concludes that a minimum safety factor of these slopes will be 1.7 which exceeds the requirement of 1.3. The excess spoil slopes have been analyzed by Alan Taylor, P.E., an expert in geotechnical engineering. These slopes also significantly exceed the required 1.3 safety factor. Details for this analysis by Mr. Taylor can be viewed in Appendix 5-1.

Deleted: ¶

553.140

Deleted: ¶

Slopes will be regraded and vegetated to minimize erosion and water pollution on and off the site.

553.150

Deleted: ¶

Formatted: Right

Deleted: 01

Backfilling and grading will be conducted to support the approved post mining land use.

528. HANDLING AND DISPOSAL OF COAL, OVERBURDEN, EXCESS SPOIL, AND COAL MINE WASTE:

528.100. Coal removal, handling, storage, cleaning, and transportation areas and structures:

Coal handling activities are confined to the active pit, and the coal sizing/loading areas located north of the pit. All areas and facilities will be designed and constructed, utilized and maintained in conformance with industry standards and all applicable regulations. At the conclusion of mining, the facilities will be removed as part of final mine reclamation activities. Material from coal stockpile areas, and other areas of potential coal accumulation will be excavated and the excavated material placed in the final mined out pit.

528.200. Overburden;

Overburden will be excavated after the removal of topsoil and subsoil as defined in Chapter 2. The overburden excavation will be accomplished by utilizing hydraulic excavators with end dump haul trucks and dozers. This process will include excavating this material in a stairstep fashion that will include benches approximately every 40 feet in depth. These benches are planned to be approximately 40 feet in width and will create an overall 2h:1v slope for the highwalls to create a stable and safe working area. This is a conservative approach for initial mining and once mining begins, ongoing geotechnical studies and monitoring will be used to further define the proper slope angle to ensure slope stability while maximizing resource recovery.

Based on the overburden isopach map (Drawing 5-15), the overburden removal has been separated into three major stages. The first stage of overburden removal is the initial mining area, Pits 1-8. These pits have a relatively low strip ratio, approximately 5:1 (refer to Drawing 5-13). In order to efficiently remove overburden for this phase, spoil from the first three pits will be placed in an excess spoil area. This excess spoil structure will hold approximately 2.7 million loose cubic yards (LCY) of material. Once the excess spoil pile is filled, overburden from the next 4 pits can then be used as pit backfill as the mining progresses through Pit 8. The completion of this phase is shown on Drawing 5-17.

As mining progresses through Pits 9-15, the isopach (Drawing 5-15) shows that the overburden significantly increases. This increase and the shape of the mining boundary for the Permit Area requires a fill above approximate original contour. Material from Pits 9-15 significantly exceeds the backfill capacity available from the preceding pits (Pits 1-8). The fill above approximate original contour blends in with the excess spoil structure from Stage 1 and extends an additional 2,500 feet to the east as the mining sequence proceeds to Pit 15. In this stage, the fill above original contour is approximately 5.8 million LCY. Drawing 5-18 (Stage 2) shows the details of this stage of the overburden removal and resulting landform.

552.200

All impoundments will be reclaimed, no permanent impoundments are proposed.

553 BACKFILLING AND GRADING:

Backfilling and Grading of the mined area will proceed in conjunction with coal recovery operations.

The planned mine will recover approximately 5.02 million tons of coal, and remove approximately 31.6 million Bank Cubic Yards (BCY) of overburden. The following is a description of the overburden removal and backfilling process:

Based on the overburden isopach map (Drawing 5-15), the overburden removal and backfilling process has been separated into three major stages. The first stage of this process is for the initial mining area, Pits 1-8. These pits have a relatively low strip ratio, approximately 5:1 (refer to Drawing 5-13). In order to efficiently remove overburden for this phase, spoil from the first three pits will be placed in an excess spoil area located immediately west of Pit 1. This excess spoil structure will hold approximately 2.7 million loose cubic yards (LCY) of material and is shown on Drawing 5-17. Once the excess spoil pile is filled, overburden from the next 4 pits can then be used as pit backfill as the mining progresses through Pit 8. The completion of this phase is shown on Drawing 5-17.

As mining progresses through Pits 9-15, the isopach (Drawing 5-15) shows that the overburden significantly increases. This increase and the shape of the mining boundary for the Permit Area require a fill above approximate original contour that is an extension of the excess spoil pile. Material from Pits 9-15 significantly exceeds the backfill capacity available from the preceding pits (Pits 1-8). The fill above approximate original contour blends in with the excess spoil structure from Stage 1 and extends an additional 2,500 feet to the east as the mining sequence proceeds to Pit 15. In this stage, the fill above original contour is approximately 5.8 million LCY. Drawing 5-18 (Stage 2) shows the details of this stage of the overburden removal and resulting landform.

Stage 3 overburden removal begins in Pit 16 and proceeds through Pit 30. During this stage, the strip ratio reduces significantly from Stage 2 as mining progresses to the south end of the property. As the strip ratio reduces to the south, significant backfill capacity is available in the preceding Pit 15. This results in the distance between the backfill and the active coal face increasing because there is a lack of spoil in the lower ratio pits as mining proceeds south to fill the preceding higher ratio area. At the end of mining this phase, an area will not be completely backfilled that is approximately 2,000 feet in length and 1,300 feet wide and will require 6.8 million yards of fill to complete reclamation to approximate original contour. This remaining pit provides an open pit adjacent to the federal coal reserves for backfilling of overburden so that a smooth transition can be made without developing another boxcut and an excess spoil area. The backfill configuration at the end of this stage is shown in Drawing 5-19.

of the active coal removal face. As described in the previous text and shown on Drawing 5-19, there will be a variance from this standard in the final pits. Areas needed for in-pit roads, ramps, drainage controls or areas which must be left open temporarily for operational reasons will be backfilled and graded as they become available.

In the initial mining area, pits 1 through 8 (spoil from pit 2 and 3 will be permanently placed in the excess spoil area and pit 1. Part of Pit 3 is placed in the previous pit. All of the 4th pit is placed in the pit 3, beginning the sequential pit backfilling process. By the time coal recovery is complete, rough backfilling and grading will be complete through 7 pits. Rough backfilling and grading will continue and be completed through pit 8. Pits 1, 2, and 3 are defined on drawing 5-10. Pits 4 through 8 will be determined during the mining of pits 1, 2, and 3. At that time, an amendment to this permit reflecting the number and sequence of pits 4 through 8 will be submitted to the division.

553.110

All areas except for the excess spoil pile and the variance from AOC (approximately 85 acres), will be restored to approximate original contour as shown on Drawing 5-35. R645-301-553.800 (Thick Overburden) does apply to this surface mine. In areas where excess spoil and variance from approximate original contour occur, the slopes will be regraded to a maximum angle of 3h:1v and most slopes are flatter as shown on Drawing 5-35 and 5-36. A geotechnical analysis has been completed to verify that the spoil material will be stable long term. This analysis can be viewed in Appendix 5-1.

553.120
All highwalls will be eliminated in the final landform. Small depressions may be constructed as needed to retain moisture, minimize erosion, create and enhance wildlife habitat or assist vegetation. All spoil piles will be eliminated with the exception of the planned excess spoil and variance from original contour as shown on Drawing 5-35.

553.130
Postmining slopes will not exceed the angle of repose which is expected to be approximately 1.5h:1v as described in Appendix 5-5. This appendix is an analysis by Dr. Ben Seegmiller addressing the safety factor for the post mining slope with the lowest safety factor outside the excess spoil area. This analysis concludes that a minimum safety factor of these slopes will be 1.7 which exceeds the requirement of 1.3. The excess spoil slopes have been analyzed by Alan Taylor, P.E., an expert in geotechnical engineering. These slopes also significantly exceed the required 1.3 safety factor. Details for this analysis by Mr. Taylor can be viewed in Appendix 5-1.

553.140
Slopes will be regraded and vegetated to minimize erosion and water pollution on and off the site.

553.150
Backfilling and grading will be conducted to support the approved post mining land use.